



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/822,823	04/13/2004	Yuuki Masumura	Q80663	3459
23373	7590	07/16/2007	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			SCOTT JR, THOMAS E	
		ART.UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2629		
		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
		07/16/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/822,823	MASUMURA ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Thomas E. Scott Jr	2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 13 April 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Priority***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Drawings***

2. The Drawings are objected to because Fig. 4 does not label the rectangular boxes as required by Rule 1.83.

### ***Specification***

3. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:  
  
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. Claims 1 – 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation of "the connection terminals", in line 16. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 3 recites the limitation of "said drive device", in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Konishi (U.S. 7,221,361 B2).

As to claim 1, Konishi discloses a display-panel-drive apparatus (display apparatus - D1 – see Fig. 1) having a drive unit (processing unit (not shown) – in display unit - 1 – see col. 3, lines 56-61) that drives the display panel (display unit - 1) and a control unit (personal computer - PC1 – see col. 5, lines 10-17) that outputs control signals (image signal – see col. 5, line 14) for controlling said drive unit to said drive unit, the display-panel-drive apparatus comprising: a drive board (part of the processing unit (not shown) – in display unit - 1 – see col. 3, lines 56-61) of said drive unit;

a control board (portion of the personal computer - PC1 – see col. 5, lines 10-17) of said control unit; a transmission line (image signal cable – 6 – see col. 5, line 16) that transmits said control signals from said control board to said drive board by way of a removable connector (connector C1 – see col. 4, lines 2-5);

a detection device (detecting circuit –3) that detects when said connector is disconnected (see col. 4, lines 27-28); and

a control device (PC1 and CPU –5) that controls said drive unit when said detection device detects that said connector is disconnected (see col. 3, lines 52 – 55 and col. 4, lines 13 -23); and

wherein said detection device detects that said connector is disconnected by detecting when the connection terminals (display-side terminals – TD1 and personal computer-side terminal TP1 – see col. 4, lines 2-5 and 27-33).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi (Fig. 1) in view of Konishi (Fig. 4).

As to claim 2, note the discussion of claim 1. Konishi does not teach in Fig. 1 said detection device is located on said control board. Konishi teaches in Fig. 4 said detection device (detecting circuit –33) is located on said control board (PC3) – (see col. 7, lines 11 – 16). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to have used the detecting circuit located on the control board as taught by Konishi (Fig. 4) to the personal computer of Konishi (Fig. 1) so that the personal computer can automatically switch the transmission paths to transmit the image signal to the display apparatus even when either the image signal cable or the wireless communication is selected fixedly to transmit the image signal at the side of the display apparatus (see col. 7, lines 56 – 61).

As to claim 3, Konishi teaches in Fig. 4 said control device (image controller unit – 34) stops operation of said drive device (of display apparatus – D0) when said detection device (detecting circuit – 33) detects that said connector (image signal connector – 31) is disconnected (see col.6, line 64 to col. 7, lines 28 – 51).

10. Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Konishi ('361) in view of Hashimoto et al. (U.S. 2002/0186186 A1).

As to claim 4, note the discussion of Konishi above. Konishi does not teach a plasma display panel. Hashimoto teaches a plasma display panel (plasma display device – 100) – (see [0031] and [002] of Hashimoto). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to have combined the

plasma display panel or plasma addressed liquid crystal display device of Hashimoto to the display apparatus of Konishi because the plasma of Hashimoto provides a quick response during addressing the image signal to the pixel cells; thereby the display can speed up (see [0013] of Hashimoto).

As to claim 5, Konishi does not teach discharge cells located on said plasma-display panel. Hashimoto teaches said drive unit (driving unit – 80) to output scan pulses (from scan driver – 86) given to successive display lines (select cells C row by row in addressing – see [0033] by address driver - 89) for setting some of the discharge cells (cells - C) located on said plasma-display panel (plasma display device – 100) as light-emitting cells (lightened) and some as non-emitting cells (not lightened) – (see [0032, 0034, and 0035] of Hashimoto).

### ***Conclusion***

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.

- Kang et al. (U.S. 2004/0100425 A1) discloses a method and apparatus for driving a plasma display panel.
- Ueda (U.S. 2003/0052873 A1) discloses a method for driving a display.

- Siwinski (U.S. 2002/0186214 A1) discloses a method for saving power in a display.
- Pawlowski et al. (U.S. 2003/0117382 A1) discloses a configurable panel controller and flexible display interface.
- Nokiyama (U. S. 2004/0130556 A1) discloses a method for controlling brightness of a portable information device.
- Macfarland ((U.S. 2003/0231550 A1) discloses a personalized key system in a telematics unit.

***Inquiries***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Thomas E. Scott, Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 270 1714. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 7:30 AM – 5:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanh Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272 – 7772. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300. Information regarding the status of this application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at (866) 217 – 9197 (toll free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, please call (800) 786-9199 (IN THE USA OR CANADA) or (571) 272 – 1000.

*TESJR*

Thomas E. Scott, Jr.

Examiner

29 June 2007

*Chanh Nguyen*  
CHANH D. NGUYEN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER